

Hydrographic Services Review Panel Work Group Tasking

Issue: Hydrographic Survey Cost Analysis

WG Assigned: 2

Tasking and Deliverables:

1. Review proposed hydrographic survey cost analysis model/methodology provided by NOAA.
2. Provide advice on proposed methodology with respect to cost factors being considered for NOAA in-house and contractor analysis. Is NOAA considering all factors that might contribute to the cost of a survey (i.e., will these factors constitute a comprehensive cost analysis)? Recommend additional cost factor considerations.
3. Does the proposed methodology result in a “normalized” cost comparison? Is a normalized comparison desired/required or is a “bottom line” cost comparison sufficient?
4. Cost analysis will consider ship/launch operations, airborne LIDAR operations, time-charter operations, and future use of autonomous underwater vehicles (AUVs). Provide advice on other survey operation models or technologies that should be considered?
5. Cost analysis will include several proposed time-charter models. Provide advice/recommendations on models being proposed.
6. Is the proposed “cost per square nautical mile” metric adequate to measure survey cost efficiency or performance? If not, recommend other potential metrics.

Timeline: Provide recommendations to the full panel at the next HSRP meeting.

Information Provided by NOAA:

1. Proposed hydrographic survey cost analysis methodology.